

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 SPC-03

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03

NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 NEA-10

DRC-01 /202 W

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R 051200Z DEC 73

FM AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1416

AMCONSUL BUKAVU

AMCONSUL KISANGANI

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUBUMBASHI 0435

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ECON, CG

SUBJECT: ECONOMIC MEASURES

REF: A. LUBUMBAHI 0434

B. LUBUMBASHI 0431

1. PRESIDENT'S 24 NOVEMBER PRONOUNCEMENTS AND SUCH IMPLEMENTING INSTRUCTIONS AS SO FAR RECEIVED IN SHABA (REF A) HAVE CREATED SHARP DISMAY AND NEAR PANIC IN SOME FOREIGN COMMUNITIES. PUZZLEMENT PREVAILS AS TO HOW AND WHEN GOZ PROPOSES TO IMPLEMENT THIS MIND-BUGGLING PACKAGE.

2. FEW RESIDENT AMERICANS DIRECTLY AFFECTED BUT WE ARE RECEIVING NUMEROUS QUERIES RE COMPENSATION FOR SEQUESTERED PROPERTIES, WHETHER EXIT VISAS LIKELY BE FORTHCOMING, WHETHER FOREIGN EXCHANGE LIKELY BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR ZAIRES DERIVING FROM LIQUIDATED
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STOCKS, ETC. WE ARE RESPONDING WAIT AND SEE.

3. DILEMMA OF ONE SMALL AMERICAN ENTERPRISER CAN BE GENERALIZED TO ILLUSTRATE PLIGHT OF MANY FOREIGN BUSINESSMEN HERE. COMPANY HAS A LOCAL BAKERY, WOODFUEL CONTRACTS, GENERAL IMPORTS BUSINESS, WHOLESALE/RETAIL TRADE AND TRUCK TRANSPORTS. ALL SOURCES OF SUPPLY HAVE BEEN CUT OFF BY ORDER CITED REF A. YET THEY ARE ADVISED BY GOVERNMENT (REF B) BOTH TO CONTINUE NORMAL SALES AND NOT ENGAGE IN QTE ECONOMIC SABOTAGE UNQTE BY QTE CREATING ARTIFICIAL SHORTAGES UNQTE. THEIR STOCKS WILL BE EXHAUSTED IN JANUARY OR FEBRUARY AND THEY ARE WONDERING WHAT WILL HAPPEN THEN. THEY PLAN TO RETURN TO US BUT ASSUME THEY WILL NOT GET GOZ EXIT VISAS UNTIL GOZ IS SATISFIED AS TO FINANCIAL ASPECTS THEIR LIQUIDATION. THEY ALSO ASSUME THAT ZAIRE'S ACCUMULATED FROM STOCK RUNDOWN WILL NOT RPT NOT BE EXCHANGEABLE FOR FOREIGN CURRENCY AND THAT THEY WILL HAVE TO LEAVE THE MONEY HERE IN A BLOCKED ACCOUNT.

4. LARGER FIRMS, E.G. AMATO FRERES, SOLBENA, ARE UNDERSTOD TO BE HARDPRESSED. THEY ARE PROHIBITED

FROM SELLING TO FOREIGNERS, YET HAVE INSUFFICIENT ZAIRIANS TO SELL TO. ALL SALES ARE UNDERSTOOD NOW TO BE ON STRICT CASH BASIS. IF THEY CANNOT FIND OUTLETS FOR THEIR FACTOREIS, THEY PRESUMABLY ARE GOING TO CUT PRODUCTION WITH CONSEQUENT RISE OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND INEVITABLE CHARGES OF "ECONOMIC SABOTAGE".

5. LOCAL GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN FOLLOWING STEPS, ACCORDING TO INFORMATION NOW AVAILABLE:

A. BANK ACCOUNTS OF PAKISTANI, PORTUGUESE AND GREEKS HAVE BEEN LIMITED TO ONE HUNDRED ZAIRES CASH WITHDRAWAL DAILY. ORDINARY BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS BY CHECK WILL BE HONORED. COMMISSIONER DUGA, WHO BRIEFED CONFIDENTIAL

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BANKERS ON THIS REQUIREMENT 3 DECEMBER DEFINED QTE PAKISTANI UNQTE BY RACE, RATHER THAN PASSPORT, SO BRADLY SO AS TO INCLUDE ANYONE ORIGINATING IN INDIAN SUBCONTINENT. QTE GREEK UNQTE IS TAKEN TO INCLUDE CYPRIOTES.

B. CND HAS ASKED GREEK CONSULATE FOR FULL LISTING

OF ALL GREEK CITIZENS IN SHABA, CONFIRMING
ASSUMPTION OF GREEK COMMUNITY THAT THEY ARE
TO BE SUBJECTED TO POLITICAL AS WELL AS
ECONOMIC REPRISALS. CONSULATE IS ASKING
INSTRUCTIONS FROM GREEK AMBASSADOR.

C. ARMY HAS HAD NUMEROUS ROADBLOCKS UP IN
LUBUMBASHI AND ADJACENT AREAS. NOT CLEAR
WHAT ARMED SOLDIERS ARE SEEKING BUT THROUGH
DOCUMENT CHECKS, VEHICULAR SEARCHES AND
GENERAL HARASSMENT ARE STANDARD DRILL.
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